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Brendy Lynn Belony

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Inventor

:John B. OOMMEN et al.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the non-US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

Any fee due with this statement may be charged to Deposit Account 50-1290.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Bean Reg. No. 44,528

Customer Number: 026304

Docket No.: BKCS 21.078

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please type a plus sign (+) partment of Commerce Application No. :10/811,493 1449/PTO Patent and Trademark Office Filing Date : March 24, 2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor: J.B. OOMMEN STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit Sheet 1 of 1 Examiner Name Attorney Docket No.: BKCS 21.078 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Cite No.1 U.S. Patent Document Kind Code Name of Patentee or Applicant Date of Pages, Examiner if known2 of Cited Document Publication of Columns Initials Lines Where Cited Document Relevant MM-DD-Passages or YYYY Relevant Figures Appear 6,697,488 CRAMER ET AL. 02-24-2004 6,075,864 BATTEN 06-13-2000 08-12-2004 2004/156498 CHAN ET AL. DING 2003/215093 11-20-2003 **FOREIGN DOCUMENTS** Cite No.1 Name of Patentee or Applicant Examiner Foreign Patent Country Date of Pages, Initials Document of Cited Document Publication of Columns Office³ Number⁴ Lines Where Cited Kind Code5 Document Relevant Passages or MM-DD-YY/Y (if known) Relevant Figures Appear

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.		Applicant check her if English language translation attached
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Unique citation designation number. See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Sind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1* if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of Information unites it displays a valid OMB control number. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.